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Oak Street Drum Disposal Area Drum Removal Project



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**Oak Street
Taunton, Massachusetts**

Date: **March 31, 2003**

Prepared For: **Zeneca Inc.
Wilmington, DE**

Prepared By:

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Maverick Construction Management Services, Inc. (Maverick) has prepared this Community Relations Plan (CRP) on behalf of Zeneca Inc. (Zeneca) to document the community relations activities for the Oak Street Drum Disposal Area located in Taunton, MA (the "Site") under the terms of the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) Number 01-2003-0024 and its accompanying Scope of Work (SOW) between the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Zeneca Inc.

Due to the nature of the removal action, Zeneca recognizes the need to:

- Demonstrate sensitivity to individual concerns and community needs; and
- Reach the appropriate audience as quickly as possible with precise and accurate information.

This plan has been developed to meet these objectives by (1) fulfilling the requirements of EPA guidance on development of CRPs applicable to CERCLA removal actions and (2) providing additional community relations activities intended to inform the public of the removal action and address public concerns. EPA guidance requires the following for CRPs for removal actions:

- Designation of a community relations spokesperson;
- Coordination of news releases;
- Notification of citizens;
- Establishment of an Administrative Record; and
- Notification to the public of the availability of the Administrative Record.

This document is organized into the following three sections: (1) Site Background; (2) Addressing Community Concerns; and (3) Public Involvement Activities.

2.0 SITE BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Description and History

The Site is approximately 1 acre in size. The Site is bordered to the north by vacant and partially wooded land, to the east by residential properties, to the west by vacant property that in turn abuts a public housing complex and to the south by Oak Street. An elderly housing complex is located across Oak Street. The northern and eastern perimeters of the Site are sloped to a ravine. There is a chain link fence along two sides of the property.

2.2 Environmental Assessment/Cleanup History

2.2.1 Initial Site Investigation

In 1997, 1998 and 2000, the City of Taunton and its consultants conducted assessment and investigation activities at the Site. In addition to obtaining soil and groundwater samples, they dug test pits in various areas to explore subsurface conditions. The results and findings of these

assessment and investigation activities are reported by Resource Control Associates, Inc. in the Phase I – Initial Site Investigation Report dated May 9, 2000.

2.2.2. *Additional Investigation Activities*

In April 2001, the City of Taunton and its consultants performed additional investigation activities. Additional test pitting activities were conducted and soil and air samples were collected. The results and findings of these activities are found in the report prepared by Resource Associates, Inc. that is entitled Excavation of Test Pits and dated May 22, 2001.

In December 2001, the US EPA and its consultants performed a preliminary assessment and site investigation (PA/SI) at the Site. As part of this work, EPA collected soil samples and utilized a magnetometer to conduct a survey of the area. In addition, EPA conducted test pitting operations for the purpose of locating and sampling buried drums.

2.2.3 *Previous Cleanup Work Conducted at Site*

In August 2002, EPA began preparing the Site for the excavation of drums, including clearing the vegetation and partially fencing the Site. Approximately 75 drums were excavated from the area, the excavation work being halted upon recovery of a drum containing waste that was labeled with the letters "ICI". Drum removal activities were conducted to an approximate depth of 35 feet below ground surface. EPA Pollution Reports (POLREP) summarize EPA activities on a weekly basis during the drum removal work.

2.2.4 *Notice of Responsibility and Consent Order*

In a letter dated December 19, 2002, EPA informed Zeneca of its status as a potentially responsible party at the Site. After further discussions with EPA, Zeneca agreed to complete the drum removal action at the Site under the terms of an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) and Scope of Work (SOW) that became effective on March 31, 2003.

2.3 *Public Involvement History*

Fact sheets describing activities at the Site have been distributed by EPA on two separate occasions since it began removal action at the Site. Copies of these fact sheets are included in Appendix A. In addition, EPA held a number of public meetings to inform the public of the site activities.

3.0 ADDRESSING COMMUNITY CONCERNS

This Section summarizes activities planned at the Site and addresses potential public concerns related to these activities. The activities described below have been

intentionally generalized to familiarize the reader with the project. Greater detail describing the specifics of the project are documented in associated site specific plans, including the Drum and Soil Response Plan, Ambient Air Monitoring Plan, and the Health and Safety Plan. These plans, as well as other site-specific documents that detail the project activities are contained in the information repository described in Section 4.1.3 of this plan. If any additional concerns arise during the project that are not specifically dealt with in these plans, such concerns will be documented and addressed in an appropriate manner.

3.1 Activities Planned under the AOC and SOW

In accordance with the AOC, excavation activities will be conducted at the Site to remove buried drums or other containers, as well as their contents, for disposal offsite at appropriate waste disposal facilities. Excavation will begin at the location where the EPA drum removal work ceased in December 2002 and will progress sequentially by section in a North / South direction. Each section will be approximately 10 – 20 feet in width and backfilled prior to beginning a new section.

3.1.1 Mobilization/Setup

Construction and site support equipment will be mobilized at the Site in April 2003. Monitoring and protective systems that will be installed to ensure that the excavation activities are conducted in a manner that is safe to both the surrounding public and to the onsite workers. These activities will include the construction of equipment storage areas and road/parking areas, as well as the installation of water and electrical connections to support site operations. Additional details of anticipated Site activities are set forth in the Drum and Soil Response Plan, Health and Safety Plan and Ambient Air Monitoring Plan.

3.1.2 Equipment To Be Used

Excavation and support equipment will be utilized at the Site throughout the duration of the project. Equipment that is anticipated to be used at the Site during the project includes heavy earthmoving machinery, generators, trailers, air treatment and filter systems, office trailers and enclosed waste material storage containers.

3.1.3 Construction Activities

Construction activities carried out at the Site will focus on the excavation activities. During the removal action, areas of the Site previously identified as likely locations of buried drums will be excavated. These activities will take place only during daylight hours. Waste identified in these excavations will be characterized, sorted, and packaged; stored temporarily onsite in secure containers; and periodically shipped offsite for disposal at appropriate facilities. Excavated areas will be backfilled upon completion. The excavation of drums is expected to last for about a

month, with an additional two weeks required to complete the onsite activities

Throughout the project, trained engineers, construction managers, and equipment operators will be present at the Site. During certain activities, Site workers will wear protective clothing and breathing apparatus due to the potential for chemical exposures in the immediate work area

3.2 Potential Community Concerns

3.2.1 General Site Safety

3.2.1.1 Potential Safety Issues

Activities at the Site could pose general safety hazards to trespassers, such as slip, trip and fall hazards from slopes, holes and uneven ground surface.

3.2.1.2 Prevention and Control

Fact Sheets that have been distributed include warnings regarding the potential safety hazards noted above, and signs posted at the Site will provide appropriate cautions to the public.

The Site has been partially fenced with a chain link fence to limit access by unauthorized persons and vehicles. A smaller high visibility fence has been installed around the area of work to warn personnel to keep out of the work area. In addition, security guards are onsite during off hours and weekends to prevent trespassing.

3.2.2 Vapors

3.2.2.1 Potential for Vapors

Activities conducted at the Site have the potential to release vapors.

3.2.2.2 Prevention and Control

Air monitoring data will be collected during Site activities, including both onsite and perimeter monitoring. Several prevention and control measures will be put into action as needed to address any potential offsite migration of vapors, including:

- Air Handling and Treatment Unit(s)
- Foaming Systems
- Cover Materials
- Odor Control Systems

Details of specific monitoring and control measures are outlined in the Site Ambient Air Monitoring Plan and the Drum and Soil Response Plan.

3.2.3 Odors

3.2.3.1 Potential for Odors

Odors can accompany vapor migration. However, odors may be noticed even though vapors are below levels that might pose a threat to human health.

Odors could result from vapors released during excavation of buried materials. In addition, heavy equipment, including bulldozers and excavators used during construction activities, may emit detectable quantities of exhaust with a noticeable odor.

3.2.3.2 Prevention and Control

As stated above in the discussion of vapors, the potential for odors will be minimized through a variety of strict control and prevention measures and monitoring both onsite and at the Site perimeter. The use of odor control systems will also aid in the reduction of offsite odor migration.

Complaints of odors will be thoroughly investigated, and the results of an investigation will be discussed with the originator of the complaint. If warranted, additional practical controls will be evaluated and implemented to address odors. Residents will be encouraged to report odors to project personnel through written and/or oral communication with the designated community relations contact named in Section 4.1.6.

3.2.4 Construction Traffic/Parking

3.2.4.1 Construction Traffic/Parking

Although removal activities at the Site will increase the number of vehicles onsite, it is not anticipated that any traffic or parking will significantly impact the Site or roads used for access to the Site. Approximately six people will be onsite at any given time, and onsite parking will be provided for workers and visitors. In addition, it is expected that delivery and hauling trips will not adversely affect traffic.

3.2.4.2 Prevention and Control

Planning for onsite removal activities will take into account potential traffic and parking impacts. Although impacts on public

roads or rights of way are not anticipated, a police detail will be put into operation in the event that it is needed.

3.2.5 Noise

3.2.5.1 Potential Noise Pollution

Heavy equipment (e.g., bulldozers, excavators, and trucks) will be used during work at the Site. Such equipment may at times produce noise that is audible offsite.

3.2.5.2 Prevention and Control

Use of heavy equipment at the Site during normal operations will be limited to the hours between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.

3.2.6 Stormwater Runoff

3.2.6.1 Potential Stormwater Runoff

Under existing conditions, stormwater runoff is controlled by means of infiltration and surface flow to lower lying areas.

3.2.6.2 Prevention and Control

Project activities are not anticipated to increase stormwater runoff at the Site. In addition, Site managers will observe surface runoff during rainfall events. If those observations instead indicate that surface water runoff could be affected by activities at the Site, then sedimentation, erosion control, and pollution control measures will be implemented as needed. For example, a variety of steps will be taken to minimize exposure of rainfall to waste materials, and any runoff that incidentally becomes contaminated will be managed and properly disposed. Specifically, the excavation edges will be bermed to redirect surface stormwater flow away from the excavation.

3.2.7 Dust

3.2.7.1 Potential for Dust and Airborne Particulates

There is some potential for the offsite migration of dust and particulates resulting from onsite activities. As with all construction projects, dust may be generated from the use of heavy equipment, earth moving activities, and excavation work.

3.2.7.2 Prevention and Control

As described in the Ambient Air Monitoring Plan, airborne dust conditions will be monitored by onsite instrumentation. As needed, crews will perform surficial wetting of exposed soils and work areas to minimize blowing dust. However, during freezing conditions, surface wetting will not be conducted to avoid the greater hazard of slippery conditions at the Site. In addition,

suppression foam intended to minimize airborne transport of particulates will be employed as needed

4.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

In accordance with CERCLA, activities undertaken to involve the public serve two purposes:

- To inform the public about Site activities and the opportunities for public involvement; and
- To solicit the concerns of the public about the Site and cleanup activities so that these concerns can be addressed.

Specific activities will be undertaken during the remedial response process at the Oak Street Site to meet these objectives. These activities are described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.

4.1 Informing the Public

4.1.1 Community Updates

In addition to preparation of the technical documents required by the AOC and SOW, written materials to update the community about Site activities, such as fact sheets, press releases, and maps, may be developed as the project progresses. EPA has developed and mailed fact sheets to date (Appendix A). Additional fact sheets will be distributed periodically using the mailing list referenced in Section 4.1.4, and will be available at the information repository.

4.1.2 Signage

Signs will be posted along fence sections to inform the public about the activities being conducted at the Site.

4.1.3 Information Repository

The Taunton Public Library has been designated as the information repository for the Oak Street Site. As technical or public information documents concerning the Site are issued, a copy will be provided to the Library so that residents will be able to conveniently find materials pertinent to the Site. The address and telephone number, hours, and contact person for the repository are as follows:

Taunton Public Library
12 Pleasant Street
Taunton, MA 02780
Contact: Susanne Costa Duquette, Library Director
(508) 821-1410

Hours: Monday - Friday 9AM - 8 PM
Saturdays 9AM - 6PM

The Boston office of EPA Region I also maintains the official EPA administrative record for the Site. The address and telephone number for EPA are as follows:

US EPA New England
Superfund Records Center
One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (HSC)
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Phone: (617) 918-1440
Fax: (617) 918-1223

4.1.4 Site Mailing List

A Site mailing list was developed by EPA during its previous removal activities to keep the public informed during the project. The mailing list includes abutting property owners, concerned citizens, government officials, and organizations, and a copy is included in Appendix B. The mailing list will be used to distribute notices of any upcoming public meetings, fact sheets, notices of public comment periods, information about the availability of documents in the information repository, major milestones and similar information. The mailing list will be updated as necessary. Requests for additions to the mailing list should be directed to:

Ken Lafferty
Project Manager, Oak Street Site
Maverick Construction Management Services, Inc.
15 Cedar Street
Auburn, MA
(508) 828-2581
Cell: 781-378-0513

4.1.5 Public Safety Authorities

Prior to initiation of drum removal activities, representatives at the Taunton Fire Department will be notified of pertinent details relating to those activities, such as the locations of emergency equipment, areas of operation and emergency procedures. In addition, appropriate local entities (e.g., the Taunton Fire Department and Police Department) will be notified when coordination is required to facilitate work at the Site.

4.1.6 Hotline

The EPA has a toll-free number that can be utilized by the public to obtain information about the Superfund program. The number is 1-800-535-0202 and will be provided on community updates to the public. In addition, telephone numbers for Frank Gardner (EPA On-Scene Coordinator) and Carol Dickerson (Zeneca Project Coordinator for the Site) will be provided on community updates.

Residents will be encouraged to communicate with the designated community relations contact should they have any questions or concerns related to the Site. The community relations person for the project is listed below.

Kenneth Lafferty
Project Manager, Oak Street Site

Maverick Construction Management Services, Inc.

Site: (508) 828-2581

Cell: (781)389-0513

4.2 Information Sources and Contacts

4.2.1 Contacts

Information for contacting relevant public officials, organizations, and private parties concerning the Site is provided in Appendix C. Appendix C is organized into the following categories:

- Federal (including elected officials and EPA)
- State (including elected officials and DEP)
- Local (city government and public safety)
- Community (local non-profit groups and community organizations)
- Private (contractors and consulting firms)

4.3 Revisions to the CRP

This CRP may be revised as necessary during the course of the project. If the CRP is revised, an updated copy of the revised document will be added to the information repository, and a notice describing the changes will be sent to persons listed on the Site mailing list.

APPENDIX A

COMUNITY UPDATES

APPENDIX B

SITE MAILING LIST

APPENDIX C

APPENDIX C – CONTACTS

Federal Contacts

Federal Elected Officials

Senator John Kerry
United States Senate
304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-2102
(202) 224-2742
Fax: (202) 224-8525

Senator Edward Kennedy
United States Senate
315 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4543

Representative Barney Frank
225 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5931

State Contacts

State Elected Officials

Senator Marc R. Pacheco
Room 109-C
State House
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-1551

Representative James H. Fagan
Room 146
State House
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-2575

Representative Joan M. Menard
Room 26
State House
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-2080

Representative Philip Travis
Room 236
State House
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-2430

Governor Mitt Romney
Office of the Governor
Room 360
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 727-6250
Fax: (617) 727-9725

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Frank Gardner
On Scene Coordinator
EPA-New England
Office of Remediation and Restoration
Emergency Planning and Response Branch (HBR)
1 Congress Street
Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Edward Kunce, Acting Commissioner
One Winter Street, 2nd FL
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 292-5856
Fax: (617) 574-6880

Dan Crafton
On Scene Coordinator
MADEP
One Winter Street, 2nd FL
Boston, MA 02108

APPENDIX C – CONTACTS
(continued)

Local (city government, public safety)

Board of Health

Contact: Jeannine Flaherty
Director
(508) 821-1400
Fax: (508) 821-1403

Police Department

Raymond O'Berg, Chief
(508) 821-1471
Fax (508) 828-9315
Business Line:
(508) 824-7522

Conservation Commission

Cathal O'Brien, Director
Contact: David Pancoast
(508) 821-1095

Fire Department

Tom Downey, Chief
(508) 821-1452
Fax: (508) 821-1495

City Clerk

Contact: Rose Marie Blackwell
(508) 821-1024
Fax: (508) 821-1098

Carlton Galligan, Captain

(508) 821-1453
Business Line:
(508) 824-4024

City Engineer

Contact: Jon Connell
(508) 821-1027
Fax: (508) 821-1336

City Building Dept

Contact: Paul Donnelly, Inspector
(508) 821-1016
Fax: (508) 821-1019

Public Works Department

Frank Nichols
(508) 821-1434
Fax (508) 821-1437

Community (local non-profit groups and community organizations)

Taunton Ecology Awareness Movement (TEAM)

Contact Lee Ann
(508) 822-5907
Tauntoneco@aol.com

Taunton River Watershed Alliance

Taunton River Action Focus Team (RAFT)
Contact: Debbi Edelstein
PO Box 146
106 Hale Street
Bridgewater, MA 02324
(508) 697-5700

Zeneca Inc.

Carol Dickerson
Project Coordinator
302-886-5123

Private (contractors, consulting firms)

Maverick Construction Management Services
John Fiore, Project Sponsor
PO Box 393
Auburn, MA 01501
(508) 721-2227

GeoSyntec Consultants

Doug Larson
629 Massachusetts Avenue
Boxborough, Massachusetts 01719
(978) 263-9588

APPENDIX D

GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

APPENDIX D - GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

Cleanup: An action taken to deal with a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that could adversely affect public health and or the environment. The word "cleanup" is used to refer to both short-term (removal) actions and long-term (remedial response) actions at Superfund sites.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA): A Federal law (commonly known as "Superfund") passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). The law gives EPA the authority to investigate sites where there is a suspected threat to public health and or the environment caused by the release or potential release of hazardous substances. Under the law, EPA can:

1. pay for site cleanup when the parties responsible for site contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to perform the cleanup; or
2. take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the Federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

Administrative Order on Consent: A legal document that formalizes an agreement reached between EPA and potentially responsible parties (PRPs) through which PRPs will conduct all or part of a cleanup action at a Superfund site; cease or correct actions or processes that are polluting the environment; or otherwise comply with EPA-initiated regulatory enforcement actions to resolve the contamination at the Superfund site involved. The consent order describes the actions PRPs will take and may be subject to a public comment period.

Groundwater: Fresh water usually located in geological formations beneath the earth's surface containing fresh water (aquifers). Ground water is a major source of drinking water.

Information Repository: A location where the administrative record file is placed for public review. It is comprised of technical documents, reports, fact sheets, and other site-related information.

On-Scene Coordinator (OSC): The EPA or state official responsible for overseeing on-site remedial action.

Public Notice: Notification to the public of actions such as the scheduling of a public meeting. Proper public notice is required prior to initiation of both removal and remedial actions and at various points in the cleanup process.

Removal Action: An immediate, short-term cleanup action that addresses a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that does, or potentially could, pose an immediate threat to public health and/or the environment.

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA): Modifications to CERCLA enacted on October 17, 1986.

Superfund Program: The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA and SARA that funds and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating sites for inclusion on the list, determining their priority, and conducting and/or supervising the cleanup or other remedial actions.

Surface Water: Ponds, lakes, rivers, and other bodies of water naturally open to the atmosphere.

Volatile Organic Compound (VOC): Man-made carbon-based chemical that vaporizes when it comes into contact with air. These chemicals are commonly used as solvents, degreasers, and dry cleaning chemicals.